which was published not long since in a provincial

paper may have been an invention, or may have been the mere guesses of a two fertile brain. That of The

Daily Telegrant is simple almost to baldness, yet the

single measure which it foreshadows is of a difficulty

and of a magnitude out of all proportion to its apparent

Importance. I am not going to explain it, much less dis-

came to being made a Cabinet question last session by the indomitable perseverance of a single independent

member, Mr. Fawcett, who long ago made it a specialty,

and who would probably, if he bad his way, give a more

complete solution of the problem than we shall ever get

from this Government or from this Parliament. If to-

day's meeting is, as I presume, the last one, its close will

be the signal for the dispersal of the Ministers. The true

Englishman (who is never a cockney, or never wants to

be thought one) has a sincere aversion for London out of

the season, and is never here in November or December

except on compulsion. His home is in the country, or if he has no home he has a friend's home to visit. If he

has the ill luck to be a member of the Cabinet, he must perforce come up to town for these Winter meetings in

which the work of next session has to be talked over.

That settled, he is a free man till next February, and

The number of Americans in town is very small; and

of Americans who can furnish material for a paragraph

I know of but two. Mr. Moses H. Grinnell has been here

who intended to sail for New-York on Saturday, has put

off going till Saturday fortnight. He had previously de

clined an invitation from Mr. Bright to visit him at

Rochdale. Gen. Schenck is expected shortly from the

THE LATE CRISIS IN FRANCE.

SPEECH OF M. DUFAURE ON BEHALF OF THE

In the debate on the petitions for the disso-

lation of the French Assembly, on Dec. 14, M. Gambetta, who was the first to speak after the reading of the re-

ports, observed that if the petitions which were the o

casion of the debate had been eight months bluemolding

which had been for some weeks fiercely acitated

throughout the country. It was of the utmost import-

ance to discuss this question in an exhaustive manner.

The speaker, whose presence of mind did not once

opposed to those which was a constituent or that the Assembly M. Grevy, reminding the orator that the Assembly M. Grevy, reminding the constituent powers were

But M. Grévy, sticking to his point, insisted that, sin

But M. Grévy, sticking to his point, insisted that, since the Assembly had solemnly declared itself Constituent he could not suffer the speaker to go into the question. To this Gambetta replied that such was not the opinion of M. Vitet, who said, "The day on which you lay hold on the Constituent prerogative—" A tunuit on the Royalist benches cut short the quotation. When silence was restored M. Grévy declared that, once for all, he could not allow the subject about which he and M. Gambetta differed to be gone into. M. Gambetta, on hearing this declaration, affected a surprise almost amounting to stwor.

stupor. When he had recovered, he folded his arms on his

in the committee rooms, they bore upon a question

DEBATE ON DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY-

GOVERNMENT.

months.

JAT'AR

FOREIGN NEWS.

HEALTH OF THE CZAROWITZ. IMPROVEMENT IN HIS CONDITION-THE FEVER DIMINISHING.

SniPerensuuro, Monday, Dec. 30, 1872. The morning bulletin announces that the Czarowitz slept six hours last night, and the fever has

CHURCH AND STATE IN EUROPE. THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT OFFENDED AT THE PAPAL ALLOCUTION-WITHDRAWAL OF THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES.

BERLIN, Monday, Dec. 30, 1872. The journals of Königsberg and Posen have been threatened with immediate confiscation if they publish the insulting references to Germany in the recent Papal Allocution.

The Charge d'Affaires of the German Legation at the Vatican will probably be instructed not to attend the reception of the Diplomatic Body by the Pope on the 1st of January, on account of the Allocution.

ROME, Monday, Dec. 30, 1872. The German Chargé d'Affaires informed Cardinal Antonelli, last week, that he had been instructed to take unlimited leave of absence. He has since closed the Legation and quir Rome for Berlin.

SLAVE TRADE ON THE EAST COAST OF AFRICA.

ARRIVAL OF A UNITED STATES MAN-OF-WAR AT ZANZIBAR-PROMISE OF THE SULTAN TO PREVENT THE KIDNAPPING OF NEGROES. ZANZIBAR, Wednesday, Dec. 18, 1872.

The United States steamer Yantic arrived on the 10th. Capt. Wilson with the United Consul, John F. Webb, and the officers of the ship visited the Sultan on the 11th. They were received by the troops and met by the Sultan in front of the Palace. Capt. Wilson represented to the Sultan the sentiments of the American people in regard to Slavery, and requested the abrogaclause of the treaty with England. The Sultan's reply was received on the 17th. He says: Thirty-three years ago I was forbidden by my father Said Said to export slaves to Muscat; the slaves now arried there are stolen by Arabs and tribes from the Persian Gulf. I will make strong efforts in the future to prevent the kidnapping of these slaves, I will make

The English corvette Briton arrived here on the 12th, and waits for Sir Bartle Frere. The Yantic also waits. Two other Euglish vessels are expected here.

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS IN GREAT BRITAIN.

MEETING IN FAVOR OF AGRICULTURAL LABOR-ERS-IRISH UNIVERSITY EDUCATION.

[FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] London, Dec. 12 .- The Bishop who wanted to duck Mr. Arch in a horse-pond would hardly have chosen Tuesday night as a suitable time for doing it. Two thousand people, otherwise minded than the rev erend Bishop, took the trouble on that wet evening to go to Exeter Hall to hear what Mr. Arch might have to say against being ducked and against being kept any nger, he and his fellows, on starvation wages. Mr Presidency is a notable fact because Mr. Moriey, though a man of great benevolence, and feeling a great inhimself at the head of any movement till it has shown a certain degree of strength. Among his supporters were derate Radicals, (if that be a contradiction in terms, its meaning is at any rate plain enough,) such as Mr. Hughes, Mr. Mundella, and Sir Charles Trevelyan, and some Radicals not often accused of moderation, Sir Clinries Dilke, Mr. Geo. Potter, Mr. Bradlaugh, and Mr. Odger. And with them all sat and even spoke Arch bishop Manning. It had been announced that the Lord Mayor, Sir Sidney Waterlow, would take the chair, but came not. It has since been stated that entered the hall, but learning that Sir Charles Dilke was on the platform and one of the intended speakers, refused to preside. I hope the statement does Sir Sidney injustice, for he too is, or has been, a Radical in some things. But there is something in the mere holding the Lord Mayor's office which leads sen-

sible men on to the doing of foolish things. Mr. Samuel Morley is one of the richest men in En cland. Mr. Ball and Mr. Arch are two of the pooresth agricultural laborers. It is something to find them on the same platform, working for a common object, and agreeing heartily in the need of a reform extensive ugh to raise a whole class of men above the wretched their ances ters have lived. Mr. Morley spoke very heart ily. He expressed both his sympathy with and admiration for the men who during the last few months have been advocating the laborer's cause. Well he may Old as the facts are, familiar as they have always been to the noble and wealthy employers of these laborers, i ment of Mr. Arch without a shudder. Two dollars or two dollars and a half a week for 15 hours a day of the hardest work in the world; that is about what it comes to Two deliars and a quarter (nine shillings) had been Mr. Arch's own wages. Who paid wages of that sort. Dakes with a rent roll of half a million, or if not the Dukes themselves, the farmers who held of the Dukes. If a man asked for better pay, what happened ! Only that morning, said Mr. Arch, he had received a letter from Black Boston, a village in Oxford-shire, stating that a farmer under the Duke of Marlbor-ough had turned a laborer and his wife and children out of a cottage because the man was a unionist; because that is, he dared belong to an association which sought to raise the wages of its members. You remember the Duke the most splendid places in Eugland by the gift of the nation, and not long since publicly announcing that he had made over to his tenant farmers the control of the cottages on his estate, which meant simply giving to the employer an absolute right of evicting the employed. In this country, that is tantameunt to a right to say whether the laborer shall have the right to work or the privilege of going to the work-house, or of starving, or both. These are my comments, not Mr. Arch's. Arch is almost too moderate a man to make comments. He confines himself to stating facts. It is hard for an American to comprehend the condition of agricultural laborers, to understand why he should work for two dollars a week, or why if he is turned out of one place er one kind of work he does not seek another. in England a while, see the competition for work, note the statistics of over-population, observe the routine spirit that enters into the lives of men much higher in ank than day-laborers; remark how closely society and each class of society walls itself about, how every trade and craft closes its ranks against outsiders, now impossible it is, almost, for a man who falls out ever to get in again, what a lack of enterprise and force there is for any new experiment; feel, above all, how wealth(tyrannizes over poverty, and you will give over wondering that such stories as Mr. Arch's can be true. You will only wonder that there should be now and then an Arch strong enough to break loose and to exhort others to break e from the serfdom in which they have been held. You will find Arch's speech full of instruction and sug gestion. The whole meeting was remarkable. London esces less than any other place in England for the country laborer, and understands him less, and has hardly ever shown the slightest sympathy for him. It is a sign of a new awakening that such a meeting can be gathered in such a city. It is only the beginning of the end. Th unious will not be put down-they will put down some other people and things first; and the agricultural laborer is taking the first step on the road along which the

artisan has already advanced a long way.
"With the Cabinet council of this afternoon," re marked Mr. Gladstone's organ yesterday, " will close the series of ministerial councils that usually takes place be fore Christmas." The organ thereupon proceeds to sketch The Ministerial programme for the coming session, and goves us to understand that the great measure of next year will deal with Irish University Education. But the same journal this morning announces another Cabinet meeting for this afternoon, so that the programme, if there be Our, may yet be modified. Cablust secrets, it is needles observe, are not ordinarily to be looked for in the columns of a morning paper, not even though that paper hold intimate relations with a Prime Minister, nor even though its chief owner be reported as about to receive a barquetey as the reward of his long devotion. Such secrets are, on the whole, tolerably well kept here, and it is easy to imagine that an entesprising reporter who should undertake to "interview" a Cabinet Minister would be promptly shown the door. But there are secrets and secrets. The proposterous programme NEW-YORK. TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1872.

the country, from a truly Conservative instinct, rose up against it. The word Conservative did not belong to any party. If it did, it would be a continual source of misunderstanding. M. Gambetta and his friends were called Radicals, a term with which it was boped to terfly the country. Did the persons who so called them know what the word "Radicals" meant it is signified merely Republicans who think that any form of Governmerely Republicans who think that any form of Govern-ment save a Republic is incompatible with universal suffrage.

speaking on behalf of the Government, said :

speaking on behalf of the Government, said:

The sovereignty of the people of which you speak, and which I respect as much as you do, was exercised in the day when, in the electoral colleges the people gave us the glorious title which we now bear. On that day the people was sovereign, and its sovereignty recognized, and ought to recognize, no other limits than those imposed by conscience and good sense. But what did the people do on that day? It delegated its power to us. Hear, hear.!

people do on that day! It delegated its power to us. [Hear, hear.]
From that moment it is we who wield it—we who are their representatives and the agents of their sovereignty. [Hear, hear.] And when we come to consider whether the unlimited powers which were then conveyed to us ought to be brought to an end, there is only one power in the world which can decide the point; and that is the Assembly itself. I know of no other. [Applause.] Meanwhile I do not deny the right of any man among you to propose dissolution to the Assembly, any more than I deny the right of respectfully presenting any petition. The right of petition remains, therefore, intact.

tact.

What is going to calm the country! What is to give guarantees for the future! A dissolution! Examining this word and appreciating the idea it represents, when we find it offered as the marked cure for all our lifs, really, genfiemen, one is contounded. It means that to get the country out of the difficulties in which it finds itself, you are going to declare that at one fell swoop the Assembly and the President of the Republic shall disappear! [Hear, hear.] There is no line of distinction to be drawn. may hunt to his heart's content during the next two

be drawn.

In our long history, the Republican form of government has always been accompanied by permanent agitations, new pretensions, and ever-increasing ambitions, as though every republic was a turbulent State, lending to transform our great and noble institutions of 1789 into to transform our great and noble institutions of 1739 into those of 1732, and those of 1792 into those of 1733—to be drowned afterward in blood. Such, gentlemen, is the misfortune attaching to this name; and I say that every politician who has the honor, even for a moment, to participate in the work of a government to which you yourselves (by the law of the alst of August) gave the name of French Republic, ought to endeavor to show to the world that the Republic is absolutely foreign to the agitations which its name appears to symbolize. [Hear, hear.]

hear.]
Yes, gentlemen, believe us, this state of perpetual agitation is a state of things which must not be tolearated in the country. Remember that, when you present your selves in a town or village, you are immediately surrounded with honest working and excellent country remains the province of the people who are attracted there by curiosity—or, rather by a legitimate desire to listen to your manly eloquence; and they not unfrequently become animated when listen

and they not unfrequently become animated when listenling to you.

Search for them on the following day; one has gone
to his workshop, the other is following the plow; and
ask them what they wish for most; they wish for repose,
for tranquility—regular work, a peaceful family, the
peaceful and pure pleasure of seeing their children grow
up well; and when their end may be approaching to
have the consoling reflection that the laws will insure
the peaceful transmission to their children of the land
they have cultivated together, and the house in which
they breathe their last [loud appliause]. Such, gentlemen, is our conviction. The whole nation requires repose; dissolution is synonymous with agitation. We
shall vote the order of the day.

The order of the day was then carried by 490 to 201 bly listened to him.

It was incumbent on him, for many personal and public reasons, to comport himself in the tribune with the utmost moderation, and he assured the House that he would not depart from the resolution he made not to allow himself to be harried on by the heat of passion or political convictions. M. Gamberta reminded the Assembly that in August, 1871. M. Scheelcher and many other deputies asked it to hear some petitions for a dissolution. The Radical Left also placed on the Bureau of the Chamber a manifesto, in which, because of the peculiar origin of the Assembly, its right to become Constituent was disputed.

The order of the day was then carried by 490 to 201

A RUMOR CONTRADICTED.

liar origin of the Assembly, its right to become Constituent was disputed.

The manifesto was submitted to the Bureau; and for more than a year M. Gambetta and his colleagues of the Left vainly called for a report upon it. He was anxious to establish these facts in order to show that he could not with any fairness be accused of being the mainspring of the movement now agitating France. His participation in the general demand for a dissolution had, he was sorry to say, been an excuse for the propagation of the grossest errors and the foulest calumnies. The Republicans were represented as partisans of the most violent measures, and utterly reckless as to the means by which to accomplish the end they desired.

M. Gambetta well knew that it was not in the Assembly alone that he and his friends were placed in a false light. Their opinions, their words, their doines, and their aspirations, were distorted out of doors by certain publicists and writers who wanted to prevent the Frénch people from extricating themselves from the terrible position in which they were plunged in 1870. M. Gambetta and his party did not demand the distocation of the Assembly. It having been reported from Washington that the Italian Government had received representa-tions from prominent Italians in this country of the unfitness of Count Corti to continue as the representative of their country here, and that, in consequence, he was likely to be recalled, it is authoritatively denied that such representations have been received by the Italian Government, or that there has been the slightest purpose

[For other Foreign News are Second Page.]

SUPPRESSING A NEWSPAPER.

From The New-Orleans Times-Recently Suspended. The overthrow of the government of a State by an interlocatory order in chancery, issued by a depraved judge, was filly followed by another and equally infamous act, in the seizure and suppression of The New-Orleans Times, which occurred on Friday about 3 p. m. It is only needful to state the circumstances and manner of this seizure and suppression to stamp it as one of the most infamous deeds to which a tudge or court ever gave sanction. Mr. C. A. Weed, before becoming the proprietor of that paper, had involved himself, in reasilizing of confidence and intimacy, with a man who had been the particular of the paper, had involved himself, in reasilizing a confidence and intimate, with a man who had been the particular of the paper, had involved himself, in reasilizing a confidence and intimate, with a man who had been the particular of the paper, had involved himself in the particular of the paper, and involved himself in the particular and his man dece. For some then past himse and instinations were thrown out by McKee that if The New Orleans Times did not cease its definication of Dureil and his ring of bankrupt assignees and lawyers, that there would be a movement against it, through with scorn and contempt. And the seizure and suppression were made upon an affidavit of this man McKee, on an alleged unpaid personal obligation of Mr. C. A. Weed for afteen hundred dollars. This obligation had never been presented to Mr. Weed—no demand had been made for the amount. It had been passed by him to McKee in the settlement of some old accounts. The reader will be amazed to know how such a thing could be done in a country where there existed a vestige of law and justice. His astonishment will disappear when he reads the provisions of the Bankrupt law and learns the practice which has been pursued in the United States District Court in this city under the administration of Dareil.

Under this practice, any creditor, for ever so small a The overtarow of the government of a State betta and his party did not demand the dislocation of the Assembly.

They did not meditate a criminal attack on the constituted powers. No. They only wanted an appeal to the people, to the elector, to the sole sovereign that exists in France—to the sovereign which has the right to make its voice heard, and the power to enforce obedience. The petitions on which the Assembly was called upon to record the following the sole sole that the power to the sole sole the grammar, the spelling, and the handwriting of some of the petitioners.

The great question at issue was: Did the educated and uneducated classes alike join in the movement of which this debate was bred! Another question growing out of this was the extent of the mandate given to the Assembly. Was it or was it not a limited one! By virtue of what title was the Assembly convoked! It behoved the nation not only to deny constituent power to that body, but to place on record its political origin. He would give the true reasons for the movement, "not for you, gentlemen, because unfortunately! I know that we are about to receive a numerical check, and that the Assembly is determined to grant itself a patent of himmortality to which it is to be feared its vitality will not be proportioned."

However, M. Gambetta would not dwell upon this bly is determined to grant itself a patent of immortality to which it is to be feared its vitality will not be proportioned."

However, M. Gambetta would not dwell upon this point. But what he would insist upon was the legitimacy of the dissolution movement. He was convinced that in a few weeks public opinion would find arguments which would impose themselves with irresistible force. M. Gambetta denied that he wanted to menace the Assembly. He only wanted to call attention to facts which it was dangerous to ignore. He should fest curious to hear what those who now doubtingly shook their heads would say when in some weeks hence they found themselves in presence of a formidable and unanimous manifestation of universal suffrage.

The Assembly was returned in February, 1871, to decide upon the conditions of peace. [Murmurs on the Right.] That was certainly the opinion expressed by the Conservatives themselves. But now what was their position i Why they set up to be immutable, omnipotent, and infailible. When they met at Bordeaux they verified elections on the mere attestations of telegraphic dispatches; and there was not a document in the Assembly's archives to prove what number of inscribed elections voted for the deputies elected in February.

Less than 5,000,000 electors, it was universally confessed, came to the ballot-boxes. But this barely amounted to half the number that there are in France, Since the Assembly left Bordeaux, more than two-thirds of the electoral body had been consulted by means of partial elections. And with what result i Why, 115 out of the 134 new deputies held political ideas absolutely opposed to those which were represented by the Conservatives.

M. Grevy, reminding the orator that the Assembly

Under this practice, any creditor, for ever so small sum which is due, by going into the Bankrupt Court an swearing to the ladebtedness, and that the debtor about to depart or to conceal his effects, may seize un hons of property, and close up the largest establishmen in this city. And there can be no release from sus scizure by the payment of the debt alleged to be due, to course the law does not anthorize any such proceedin On the contrary, it has been the invariable practice at construction of the law by all honest judges that it mere affidavit of the petitioning creditor, mere expartestimony, will not justify the issue of a warrant lawit these serious effects. Other and satisfactory proofs mu be given and a hearing had. But Durell law is different mere affidavit of the petitioning creditor, mere exparit testimony, will not justify the issue of a warrant having these serious effects. Other and satisfactory proofs must be given and a nearing had. But Durell law is different from the law of the civilized world. He claims that it is for his discretion to determine whether the prima face showing of a sching creditor is satisfactory or not. That this act was a part of the foul conspiracy which threatens the whole honest portion of this community with ruin, is abundantly shown by the intimate relations of this man McKee with the Custofa-House Ring, and by the conclusive fact when tendered the amount of his debt and a large surplus to meet ests and lawyers fees, he refused it, intimating that no amount could induce him to release the establishment. Thus it has happened that The New Orleans Times, as owned and conducted by C. A. Weed, at an expenditure of over \$20,000 per month, has been suppressed on a personal claim of \$1,500 against the proprietor, and on the oath of the tool of a party political clique. But the main object was not attained. The New-Orleans Times, of which C. A. Weed was proprietor, is held by the minious of this opprobrium of Justice and law.

The Times which takes its place, and now havin its

law.

The Times which takes its place, and now hurls its defiance and contemp!, and launches its beits of denun-ciation and exposure against these vile perjurers, pillagers, and felons, is beyond the reach of the power or of the menaces of the despicable crew.

THE NEW-ORLEANS TIMES TO BE PUBLISHED AGAIN.

NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 30 .- A compromise has been effected in the case of McKee agt. Weed, by which Weed and others' relinquish the entire establishment of The New-Orleans Times to the helrs of W. H. C. King, its former proprietor. The publication of the newspaper will be resumed Jan. 1, with M. F. Bigney as Editor and to stapor.

When he had recovered, he folded his arms on his chest, and looking steadily at the "Rurals," he asked if they seriously hold that the vote they passed on the occasion of the Proposition Vitet invested them with constituent power. If they did, then their pretensions elashed with the opinion of the country, which they could not keep from inquiring into the nature of the initial title of 18f1, and of saying, "Why, we never thought of investing you with this tremendous prerogative, nor you of asking us."

Every electorial speech, and printed address limited the mandate to the narrow issue of peace or war. The Gazette de Françe of February 1 formally pronounced in this sense, and attogether denied to the Assembly the right to discuss constituent questions.

M. Gambetta then adverted to the dangerous crisis through which the country is laboring. He cenjured men of all parties to put an end to this precarious situationly opening their eyes to the truth, and looking at facts as they revealed themselves to the rest of Europe. They made a mistake if they thought the dissolution the movement an artificial one.

Nearly a million of signatures had recently been affixed to petitions. Next week the number would be inmensely increased. Twesty-three years ago another Assembly, which was truly constituent, thought it its duty to retire because 175,000 petitioners demanded its dissolution. In answer to an interruption of M. Duval, M. Gambetta did not think it useless to cite this precedent. In the time of that Assembly there was the utmost respect professed for public epinion, state reasons, and political decency. Why, M. Dafaure in 1848 defended the dissolution movement with an amount of logic and ability that he (M. Gambetta) could not ever hope to rival. Henry Green, Business Manager, as heretofore

POLITICAL NOTES.

During the present session of Congress there have been offered no less than 26 amendments to the Constitution. The Chicago Tribune prints the list, which covers all subjects from Presidential elections and terms down to the intermarriages of races.

The bill which recently passed the House of Representatives giving each soldier of 90 days' service 160 acres of the public land at par, receives an indignant denunciation from The Cincinnati Commercial. That journal calls it a "Four hundred million laud grab," and says if such a thing is to be "done in the name of patriotism, it should be said that it is that patriotism which serves only for pay."

Mr. John McEnery, who, according to Gov. Warmoth's Returning Board, was elected Governor of Louisiana at the last election, has issued an address to the people of his State. He sets forth the conservative the people of his State. He sets forth the conservative view of the case in language tolerably moderate, and with evident sincerity. He alludes to the thoroughness of the canvass, the quiet and orderly manner of the election, denies that any legal voter was debarred from the polls, and declares that personally he has no knowledge of fraud or intimidation. He calls upon the people to stand by the Government which he believes they have honestly elected, namely the one of which he is the head, bowing only, if they must bow at all, to the authority of the United States.

ARKANSAS POLITICS.

arenty that he can change any property of the fusion of Centers, and pairty centrivances for the fusion of Centers. France has come to such a pass as practically to be without a flovernment or a Legislature. The great bodies of the State do not balance, but neutralize each other. It is in pressure of this dead lock that the country quiety and calluly demands a dissolution. At the outset of this movement the Conservatives affected to ignore it. It was too insignificant for them to notice it. But now they start beck with fright, for they are growing alive to its projugious force. LITTLE ROCK, Dec. 30 .- The injunction case of Judge Harrison against the Governor, Secretary of State and others, came up before Judge Caldwell, this they start beek with fright, for they are growing alive to its prodigious force.

After the Message, France, through her collective organs, manifested her confidence in M. Thiers and her gratitude for the services he rendered in preserving the republican form of Government; and yet the President's policy was contrary to the wishes of the nation, and as a reply to the peritions the Conservatives cried out, "We want a fighting Government; and an order defour motice." Just as if such I diputina cords could bind down a great people determined to live and move in order, throughusfreedom. morning. The respondents asked until Monday next to file answer, and, after arguments, the Judge granted the motion. On Wednesday, Jan. 1, the two persons against whom the injunction is desired, Judges Searle and Stephenson, will go into office as Assectate Justices of the Supreme Court. The Legislature meets next Monday. A large number of the members have already rder, throat in freedom.
The Hight set up to be an enemy of the Republic, and

WASHINGTON.

CURRENT TOPICS AT THE CAPITAL. SECRETARY BELKNAP'S PROSPECTS. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Monday, Dec. 30, 1872. Among the rumors originating with the kitchen cabinet is one that Secretary Belknap's services will not be desired by the President in the War Department after the eth of March. The friendship of the editor of The Sunday Capital newspaper for Gen. Belknap is said to have mor-tally offended the kitchen cabinet, which has a mortal quarrel with that paper, everybody connected with it, and everybody whom it befriends. It is also hinted that Gen. Belknap, having taken no part in the late campaign, Gen. Belknap, having taken no part in the late campaigo, has no claim on the Administration, and that the President will give the war budget to some New-York man as a reward for his services in carrying that State. This hardly seems possible to New-Yorkers, as it has always been supposed that the successor of either Mr. Fish or Mr. Boni well will come from New-York, and that the politicinas from the Empire State will hardly be satisfied with representation in the War Department.

A GRASPING BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS. It is generally understood in Washington that as soon as the Board of Public Works obtain the million and quarter they ask from Congress to pay the liabilities of the Government on street improvements around the public grounds, they will begin to agitate for a much larger sum as a gratuity. The current report is that they have fixed upon five millions as a round sum which they think Congress ought to be willing to vote to be spent on improving and beautifying the seat of Government. The million and a quarter is to pay for particular ment. The million and a quarter is to pay for particular improvements actually made about the property of the Government, and the five millions they will claim the city ought to have as a gift to recompense the for the large outlay it is obliged to make to pave and keep in order streets and avenues which the Government laid out of a width enormously disproportion, te to the needs of the business done upon them. If the Board entering the project it will of course not be good policy to broach it notif they have got the million and a quarter that will be given them when the Deficiency bill passes, which has gone through both Houses, but waits concurrence by the House in the Senate's amendments.

[GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.]

The law of 1792 requires three separate certificates of the persons voted for as President and Vice-President by each Electoral College to be prepared, one of them to be sent by mail to the President of the Senate, another to be delivered to him by special messenger and the third deposited with the Judge of the District in which the Electors assemble. Certificates of all the electoral votes, with the exception of Kentucky, have been received here by mail. Special messengers have arrived from all the States with the exception of North Carolina, Ohio, Florida, California, Oregon, and Nevado, bringing their Florida, California, Oregon, and Nevado, bringing their respective certificates. The messengers from Vermont, Iudiana, Arkansas, Minneaota, West Virginia, Nebraska, and Louisiana have, in the absence of the President of the Senate, deposited their certificates with the Seretary of State to await the return of the President of the Senate. The law requires the certificates to be delivered in Washington by the first Wednesday in January, and in case any of them are not received, the Secretary shall send for them to the courts where the certificates are deposited. Any special messenger neglecting to perform his duty shall forfeit \$1,000. A special messenger from Louisiana, to-day, brought the certificate of the electoral vote of that State for Grant and Wilson.

MR. RICHARDSON AND THE TREASURY. UNSAVORY RECOLLECTIONS OF THE \$5,000,000 REISSUE-FACTS AND RUMORS.
FROM A REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.

Washington, Dec. 30 .- Rumors are still current that Judge Richardson is to be Mr. Boutwell's successor in the Treasury Department. Mr. Richardson caunot be said to have much support for the position either among leading politicians or financiers. His reent well-meaning attempt to relieve a stringency in the money market by the reissue of \$5,000,000 of retired greenbacks has given rise to a feeling that, instead of being promoted to the Secretaryship, he ought not to remain in a position where, in the absence of the head of the Department, he can exercise such dangerous power. In common with a large class of politicians, he appears to believe that the Treasury Department should be a kind of overruling Providence to regulate the commercial and monetary affairs of the country, by expanding or contracting the currency at pleasure, always, of course, for the country's good. Dusiness men have a intention of the President to make Mr. Richardson Secretary is credited, a strong pressure will unquestionably be made for the appointment of some other man who will have no hobby that will lead him to tinker with the currency. There is thus far no reason to believe that the President has changed his ideas about the selection of Cabinet Ministers, and the best informed people think that in filling the vacaucies occurring on the 4th of March he will consult his personal preferences chiefly. and make public services and peculiar fitness for the places a secondary consideration. This view finds some support in the fact that neither of the three men thus far mentioned in connection with the Secretaryship of News of New-York, and Assistant Secretary Richardson,

Cabinet Ministers ought to be made. There is good authority for the statement that Secre tary Boutwell has determined to leave the Treasury Department on the 15th of February, and that his resignation, to take effect on that day, will soon be placed in the hands of the President. There is a good deal of of March before resigning. The general opinion appears to be that he is convinced that his recommendations to be that he is convinced that his recommendations about financial legislation will not be followed by Congress, especially in regard to the revival of the Syndicate, and that he prefers not to remain in the Cabinet to witness the defeat of his projects at the close of the session. That he will be elected to the Senate to succed Mr. Wilson is scarcely questioned here. The report that the President has already made up his mind to put Assistant Secretary Richardson in Mr. Boutwell's place gains creating of the project of the project of the senate to success the president has already made up his mind to put Assistant Secretary Richardson in Mr. Boutwell's place gains creating of the project of the projec Secretary Richardson in Sr. Boutwer's place gains cro-dence day by day, and there are now many persons, who are usually well-informed as to what is going on at the Witte House, who assert positively that Graut has come to this decision, and that he has already informed Mr. Richardson of his coming good fortune.

THE HEAVY ORDNANCE PROBLEM.

ABANDONMENT OF THE RODMAN SYSTEM-ACTION OF THE ORDNANCE BOARD-THE NEW SYSTEMS ADOPTED FOR EXPERIMENTS AND TESTS.
FROM A REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUSE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 .- The Ordnance Bureau of the Army is all at sea again in the matter of heavy guns. During the Rebellion it claimed to have definitely solved the vexatious orduance problem, and to have obtained in the invention of the late Gen. Rodman the gun of the greatest endurance and destructive power known to the world. The Rodman gun was made of cast-iron, cooled slowly from within by passing currents of water through the core around which the metal was poured. Large numbers of them were made, and the Bureau sent one of 15-inch caliber to England for competitive trial with the Armstrong guns, where it be haved very well and showed remarkable power in shat tering armor. As a smooth-bore the gun appeared to be fairly successful in experimental firings, but the few that were rifled exhibited no trustworthy endurance The opponents of the gun alleged that it would not endure the strain of rapid and long-continued firing in bat tie. The 'ordnance officers, however, strenuously declared that it possessed every merit desirable in a great gun. It was remarked, nevertheless, by persons inter-osted in ordnance problems, that the principal European Powers did not appear to consider it of sufficient value to take muchinotice of it.

About a year ago Gen. Rodman, the inventor, died. He was an ordnance officer of high rank and eminent tionably had much to do with the partiality of the Ord nance Bureau for it. Soon after his death the Bureau exhibited a willingness to reopen the question and to begin a new series of experiments to determine upor acknowledging the defects of the Rodman system. Ap to test an invention of Dr. Woodbridge for a gun made by winding wire around a tube. An appropriation of \$270,000 was made at the last seasion, but the law provided that it should be applied to at least three models of heavy ordnance to be designated by a board of offi-cers, who should report upon both muzzle and breech-loading guns. A board was accordingly appointed by the Secretary of War in June, composed of four ord-nance officers, two artillery officers, and one engineer officer. The Board invited inventors to send them their drawings and specifications, and in response they re ceived descriptions of 40 different inventions. After about three months' work examining the drawings, models, and descriptions of these devices, the Board selected nine for tests andjexperiments. These, arranged in the order of their supposed merit, were the following:

MUZZLE-LOADERS—A Dr. W. E. Woodbridge's. 2 Alon-

so Hitchcock's. 3, Cast-iron guns lined with wrought iron or steel tubes.

BREECH-LOADING GUNS—1. Friederich Krupp's (Prus-nan). 2. E. A. Sutchiffe's. 3. Nathan Thompson's. 4. French and Swedish system.

MISCELLANEOUS-H. F. Mann's ; Lyman's multicharge. The Woodbridge system, which is said to be specially favored by the Ordnance Bureau, is described by the inventor to consist "in the disposition of helices of wire, constituting in general the principal part of the mass of the cannon, and their junion by a more fusible metal

employed as a solder, and also used when desired as the material forming the walls of the bore.

The Hitchcock system consists in surinking a series of heated bands over a tube of wrought from or cast steel, and supplementing these with another series of bands placed over the first so as to cover the joints. A new method of weiding these bands is an important part of the invention.

method of welding these bands is an important part of the invention.

The Krapp breech-loaders are made of cast-steel, and their value was fully demonstrated during the French war, particularly at the slegs of Paris. The other breech-loading guns selected by the Board may be made of any suitable material, the inventions not relating to the method of making the gun itself, but only to the hreech-loading mechanism, which could not easily be described so as to be comprehended without the aid of drawings. The only exception is the French and Swedish system, which consists of casting a gun of iron, cooled slowly by currents of air passed through the bore, and afterward shrinking upon it two layers of steel rings reaching from the breech about half way to the muzzle. The manufacture of trial guns of all these systems will be very expensive and will require considerable time. It is probable that a year or two at least will elapse before the experiments are completed and a gun is finally selected. If the experiments are thorough and impartial, the result ought to be the adoption of the best system of heavy ordnance which the civilized world can furnish. When the selection is made Congress will be asked for an appropriation of several millions to arm the forts with the new weapon.

WASHINGTON NOTES. [BT TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Monday, Dec. 30, 1872. The first sociable of the New-York Republican Associaion will take place to-morrow evening. The annual reception of this Association is appointed for Jan. 22, when the delegation in Congress from New-York is expected to be largely represented. The President and his Cabinet will be invited, and prominent New-Yorkers will make speeches. The New-York Association will also give an inauguration ball to all visitors from that State on the evening of March 3.

[GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.]

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue contemplates a change in the whisky regulations, on the 1st of January, under which alteration an allowance of one fer menting period, but in no case more than 48 hours, will be made upon the opening of additional tubs, before those additional tubs are included in arriving at the producing capacity. Heretofore additional tubs have been included from the moment they were opened. This new ruing will be prospective from the 1st of January, but in no case will they be retroactive, or in other words will relate entirely and only to the products of January and future periods. In the case of a devise of property left in trust to provide for the support of domestic animals, the Commissioner of Internal Revenue decides that there is no legacy or succession tax. This question was raised on the will of a lady in Boston, who left property for the maintenance of a cat.

The Secretary of the Treasury has accepted the propo sition of Messrs. Edward Cadwalader and Samuel Poorman to sell the property at the corner of Fourth and L-sts., in Sacramento, California, for the sum of \$30,000. A new Government building is to be created on property, which fronts 180 feet on L-st. and 100 fee Fourth-st. The President will give his first State dinner on the 8th

of January, the guests being members of the Cabinet and their wives, Vice-President and Mrs. Colfax, General and Mrs. Sherman, and Admiral and Mrs. Porter. State dinners will be given at the White House every alternate Thursday during the season. The commission of George Bliss, sr., as United States

Attorney for the Southern District of New-York was forwarded to him, to-day, by the Attorney General; also the commission of William Patrick as United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri.

The truth of the statement telegraphed hence that Mr. Bout well has written a letter of resignation as Secretary of the Treasury, to take effect 15th of February, is denied at the Treasury Department, and no one at the Executive Mansion has heard anything of the kind.

THE PROSPECT SLAUGHTER.

CONDUCTOR FLANDERS'S STATEMENT—OTHER TESTIMONY BEFORE THE CORONER.

MAYVILLE, N. Y., Dec. 30.—Conductor Fay P. Flanders has testified substantially as follows before the Coroner's jury :

the Coroner's jury:

I am a conductor on the Buffalo, Corry and Pittsburgh Railroad; we were going at the rate of six or seven miles per hour: I had no knowledge that there was anything wrong before I felt the train leaving the track at the treatle; a signal was given to "down brakes" about se rods before reaching the treatle; so far as I know, no blame can attach to anyone; I heard no remark made that we were running at a rapid rate of speed; our instructions were not to run over six miles per hour over large treatles; we were running in conformity to these instructions.

instructions.

Juo. Cowdry of Corry, Penn., one of the severely in-jured, swears that he was a passenger on the mail train, and is an employe of the Oil Creek and Allegheny River Railway: did not notice that the train was running at a

speed of the train; and it discover any singly would use till the car left the trestle.

Juo. Douglas, also seriously injured, testified that he was a passenger, and was sitting on the rear seat of the rear car; heard the remark made by an old gentleman, that the train was running very fast for such a rough road; thought so myself; was asleep when the car left the truck.

the track.
David Fowler testified that he was employed in the wood department of the car shop in Mayville; examined the tender and tracks and the broken wheel, and discovered what he thought was a "fire crack" in the iron; did not think it could be discovered by any ordinary examination of the wheel, except by an expert.

ALMOST A RAILROAD DISASTER.

CONCORD, N. H., Dec. 30 .- The 3:30 p. m. train from Montreal ran, to-day, into the up-train, which was awaiting its arrival here in the railroad yard. The upright rod on a switch broke from the frost, when the engine struck the rail and threw the train on the track where the other train was standing. The baggage-car struck the engine and demolished it. The baggage-car and the two cars following were somewhat smashed, the patent platforms saved the other train. No one was seriously hurt, though the escape from a general smash

AN ALLEGED BOND ROBBERY.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30 .- Edward A. Everett, an apparently respectable man, living in this city, was ought before a Police Justice on Saturday, charged by a Miss Shortwell with having robbed her of \$100,000 in bondof the Seima and Guif Railroad, valued at \$25,000, which she had been intrusted with to deliver to Gen. Roddy of Alabama. According to her statement, she was introduced to Everett at the Grand Central Hotel, New-York, by one of the clerks of that house, and came in Everett's care to Chleago, where he secured possession of her trunk long enough to rob it. The accused was held in \$15,000 bail for trial at the Criminal Court.

TRANSFER OF THE CITY FUNDS.

The correspondence between Controller Green and City Chamberlain Palmer in relation to the litness of the Tenth National Bank for the reception of the city feposits, will be found on another page of THE TI BUNE. Arrangements were made subsequently for the removal promptly paid out by the Tenth National and trans erred by the Chamberlain to the Broadway Bank.

When Mr. Palmer was appointed Chamberlain by Mayor Hall, there were four depositing banks, the Broadway, Tenth National, Union Trust, and Park Banks. The Union Trust and Park Banks have compiled with the instructions of the Controller and placed the interest to the credit of the same account with the prin-

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

....The number of hogs packed at Chicago during the present acason has been 623,793.

... The total losses by fire in Hartford, Conn., inrigg the last year have been only \$11,200. ... The Tribune of Salt Lake City strongly advo;

... A number of prominent citizens of Hartford, clucing Gov. Jewell, Mayor Robinson, R. D. Hubbard, W. W. Eaton, budge Walto, and Gen. Hawler, have signed a paper concurring will intens in other towns in an expressed desired for a constitutional con-

...The block occupied by Hamilton Coe & Co., booksellers, in Osweyo, N. f., on the cast side, was barned, resterday, with nearly all its contents, including the jewelry store of H. W. Paal, and the drug sters of H. C. Whitner. The loss on steck is \$30,000; insurance, \$11,000. The loss on building is \$13,000; insurance, \$11,000.

The Controller of the Currency has called for

WINTER DANGERS.

THE SNOW PROBLEM.

WASTE STEAM IN THE SEWERS A POSSIBLE REM. EDY FOR SNOW BLOCKADES.

An accidental discovery in White-st., yesterday, may prove the solution of one of the most perplexing questions of street management.

It appears that the snew in that thoroughfare was so heaped up that trucks could not get to the sidewalk, and there was no probability of the authorities removing it for many days. The proprietor of one of the stores or-dered his men to open the man-hole of the sewer in the middle of the street, and to shovel the snow into it. On raising the cover, a cloud of steam rose into the sir, and the snow which was thrown in melted almost before it reached the bottom of the sewer. The bystanders at once asked why a similar plan might not be adopted throughout the city, and an examination showed that the temperature of all the sewers below Feurteenth-st. was high enough to melt snow at once. This is due not only to the protection of the sewers from the cold, and the chemical changes going on within them, but also to the fact that the exhaust pipes of most steam engines pass their steam into the sewers.

A TRIBUNE reporter called on Commissioner Van Nort to get his views on the subject. He said that the sub ject was a new one to him, and that he could give no opinion without further consideration. It was against the law to pass even waste steam into the sewers, on account of the damage to the mason-work. Steam might be carried into the bottom of the sewers, however, in such a way as to do little damage, and yet be of the greatest use in melting snow.

James McDonald, City Engineer, stated that in his opinion the discovery would solve the entire problem. The sewers were frequently so hot from exhaust steam that they could only be cleaned at night and on Sundays. To obviate the injury to the mason-work, the pipes migh bottom of the sewer, with the same increase of warmth and without the damaging heat. By adopting this plan, and placing the man-holes nearer together-fifty or one hundred feet apart, perhaps—thomsands of dollars might be saved to the city, and snow-storms might cease to be objects of dread. It was frequently in some such blun dering way that the most important discoveries were

THE UTAH AVALANCHE-ELEVEN LIVES LOST. SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 30 .- It has been ascertained that eleven men were buried by the Cotton wood side, some of them being strangers from the East. Three bodies have been recovered. It is reported that three more slides occurred on Sunday last. One man was carried down by one of them, but was rescued without severe injuries.

ICE IN THE MISSISSIPPI.

THE SITUATION AT MEMPHIS—ANOTHER GORGE AT RANDOLPH—SEVEN LIVES LOST. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] MEMPHIS, Dec. 30 .- A warm rain that fell

early all of last night softened the ice and loosened large quantities of it, which floated past the city to-day. One large mass that came down to-day crowded a hole in the hull of the ferry-beat Excelsior, causing her to sink nearly to the top of her wheel-house on one side. She was owned by Capt. Patterson, was worth about \$5,000, and uninsured. The Belle of Pike has settled until her wheels are out of sight, and her bow is in nine feet of water. She has moved down nearer the Walt. The latter has water over her larboard guard and up to her stairway. All her machinery was removed. Both the Walt and Belle of Pike will go out of sight when the

The Undine was carried to President's Island by the ce, where she now lies. Several boats have started up the river, and others will probably attempt it in the morning, although a still heavier gorge is reported at Randolph, which is said to contain the wreck of a dozen flatboats and two or three stern-wheel steamers. A gentleman from there says he saw a hay-boat with seven persons on board come down on a heavy field of ice, and all were

crushed in the mass of stationary ice. LATER.-The mass of ice extending from Jefferson-st. up for five blocks, that has held a dozen boats for the past week, gave way about 8:30 to-night, and, sweeping down with tremendous force, pushed the dry docks nearer the shore, jammed the Excelsior still further down, so that her cutside wheel is completely submerged, carried off three or four coal flats, sunk the Belle of Pike out of sight, and did slight damage to the Andy Baum. Then the ponderous mass, grinding sul-lenly against four or five other boats lying below, passed

down the river without doing further damage. [GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.] MEMPHIS, Dec. 30 .- A steady rain fell during the night, softening the ice and causing large quantities to break off and sink, thus greatly lessening the danger

to boats. The river is rising steadily, and the floating ice is rapidly diminishing. this morning, report that they met a large number of coal-boats comparatively uninjured, and that they also rescued a man, named Harvey, with his wife and child,

from a dredge-boat at the mouth of the St. Francis and is sinking rapidly. She is valued at \$7,500 and will

probably be a total loss; uninsured. Men who left Randolph yesterday morning state that the ice gorged there 30 feet high, and that a flatboat containing seven persons was drawn under it and all on board periahed. This news causes great excitement 11 P. M .- The weather is clear and soft. The river is still rising; it has risen eight feet altogether. Nothing further has been heard of the gorge at Randolph. All

the cotton on the Belle of Pike has been saved. PERILS OF NAVIGATION

ANOTHER WRECK-SIX LIVES LOST. HALIFAX, Dec. 30 .- The schooner Lord of the Isles, of and for Halifax from St. Martins, West Indies, struck on Iron Bound Island, coast of Lunenburg

LOSS OF THE BRIG BRANCH. HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 30 .- The Brig Branch rom New-York, with a cargo of flour, tea, and general merchandise, is a total wreck on Dunean's Reef, at the entrance of the harbor. Part of her cargo may possibly

County, last night, and became a total wreck. Capt. Arthur Curtis of Halifax and four of her crew were

drowned, and the mate died from exposure after reach

be saved in a damaged condition. A SCHOONER ABANDONED.

Capt. Crawfor, of schooner Hannah Little, from Wilminkton, N. C., of and for Philadelphia, with a cargo of lumber, reports that on the night of Dec. 25, during a heavy south-east gale the vessel struck on the point of Hatteras, became water-logged, and rolled over n her beam ends. The crew were rescued on Friday, Dec. 27, by the steamer Regulator, Capt. Freeman, bound from Vilmington to this port. At the time of the rescue a strong northerty gale was blowing, and a dangerous sea was running, and great praise is due to Capt. Freeman. The Hannah Little was 182 tuns register, built at Chester, Penn., in 1866, and was owned by L. Mathews, James Little, and others of Philadelphia.

WRECK OF THE SCHOONER SOMERS. The following letter was received in this ity, yesterday, giving details of the loss of the sche J. L. Somers of this port :

J. L. Somers of this port:

Brownsville, Texas, Dec. 18.

On Dec. 4 the schooner J. L. Somers, halling from New-York, loaded with lamber from Permacols, got ashore in attempting to cross Brazos Bar, and will-be a total loss. Beyond the spars, sails, rigging, and-portion of her equipment, nothing of the vessel wilf be saved. The cargo, which is covered in New-Orleans, will for the most part be recovered. This vessel has been trading in the Gulf for the past two years, and, it is believed, is not insured. For several days past lumber and broken cases of merchandise, barrels, &c., have been coming ashore on the Mexican coast, south of the Rio Grande. Yesterday, a box of shoes marked "(A.) Gaiveston," and a barrel of vinegar marked "(A.) Gaiveston," were picked up on the beach. Some vessel, from New-Orleans, to Gaiveston, it is believed, has met with disaster in the Gulf, but no loss is reported up to date.

Arrival Of The Thuringia.

ARRIVAL OF THE THURINGIA.

The German steamer Thuringia, which arrised at Hoboken on Sunday night, reports a very stormy passage. The officers were obliged at one time to lash themselves to the bulwarks and masts to prevent being washed overboard. The first boatswain was so severely injured that he died. The Thuringia brought

....The knitting factory of H. S. Conde & Statton, N. Y., was humed, yesterday. The fire originated in the the loss on the building is \$12,000; insured for \$7,000. The tock and machinery is \$80,000; inspect for \$40,000 in the Royr ashire, &tua, Hartford, North America, Franklin, Pennsylvas